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Press Item for the DCI

Date: 24 Nov 71
Item: No. 2
Ref: No. _____

WASHINGTON--THE SENATE, IN A STRANGE GAME OF BLIND MAN'S BLUFF, HAS DECIDED IT DOES NOT KNOW HOW MUCH THE U.S. SPENDS FOR INTELLIGENCE -- BUT \$4 BILLION ISN'T ENOUGH. MEMBERS REJECTED 56 TO 31 AN AMENDMENT TO THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL LAST NIGHT TO PLACE A \$4 BILLION SPENDING CEILING ON U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES FOR THE YEAR. OF THE 87 MEMBERS WHO VOTED, HOWEVER, ONLY FIVE KNOW EXACTLY MUCH INTELLIGENCE COSTS -- AND THEY WEREN'T TALKING.

"IF YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE AN INTELLIGENCE AGENCY," SAID SE. JOHN STENNIS, D-MISS., ONE OF THE FIVE, "YOU'VE GOT TO...SHUT YOUR EYES AND TAKE WHAT COMES."

BUT SEN. STUART SYMINGTON, D-MO., WHO IS NOT ONE OF THE FIVE, DID NOT SEE IT THAT WAY. "I CAN BE TRUSTED," HE PLEADED. "I SERVED MY COUNTRY IN FOUR WARS STARTING AS A BUCK PRIVATE."

SYMINGTON, ALTHOUGH HE IS A MEMBER OF BOTH THE ARMED SERVICES AND FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEES, SAYS HE HASN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA HOW MUCH HE HAS BEEN VOTING TO APPROPRIATE FOR THE CIA AND OTHER SUPERSECRET U.S. AGENCIES.

THE REASON IS THAT THE FUNDS FOR THESE AGENCIES ARE DISGUISED BY PADDING VARIOUS LINE ITEM APPROPRIATIONS SPREAD OVER SEVERAL DIFFERENT MONEY BILLS, MAINLY THE BIG DEFENSE BILL.

SYMINGTON'S LIMITING AMENDMENT WAS PROMPTED BY DISCLOSURES THIS YEAR THAT THE CIA HAS BEEN FINANCING A SECRET WAR IN LAOS -- TRAINING, CLOTHING AND FEEDING AN ARMY OF THAI AND LAO GUERRILLAS TO FIGHT THE COMMUNISTS.

EVEN ALLEN ELLENDER, D-LA., CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, WHO IS ONE OF THE FIVE IN THE KNOW, SAID HE DID NOT KNOW ABOUT THAT ACTIVITY UNTIL HE READ IT IN THE NEWSPAPER.

"I NEVER ASKED," HE SAID.

11/24--GE911A

Comment: Thuermer and Maury have copies.

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Press Item for the DCI

Date: 24 Nov

Item: No. 6

Ref: No. 2

**SENATE-INTELLIGENCE
BY CARL P. LEUBSDORF**

WASHINGTON (AP)—SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE SENATE HAVE TOLD THEIR COLLEAGUES THE NATION'S INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES MIGHT BE HARMED IF TOO MANY SENATORS ARE LET IN ON SPY SECRETS.

AT ONE STAGE IN THE DEBATE TUESDAY, SEN. STUART SYMINGTON, D-MO., WHO RAISED THE ISSUE, SUGGESTED THE ENTIRE SENATE HOLD A SECRET SESSION ON THE MATTER. BUT HE DIDN'T GET VERY FAR, AND THE SENATE REJECTED 56 TO 31 HIS AMENDMENT TO SET A \$4 BILLION CEILING ON INTELLIGENCE SPENDING.

"MY FEAR," CHAIRMAN ALLEN ELLENDER OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE SAID, "IS IF YOU OPEN THE GATES AND LET EVERYBODY IN, WE WOULD DO HARM TO OUR INTELLIGENCE."

BUT THE 81-YEAR-OLD LOUISIANA DEMOCRAT WHO HEADS THE PANEL'S DEFENSE AND CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SUBCOMMITTEES CONCEDED HE HAD NOT KNOWN ABOUT CIA-FINANCED OPERATIONS IN LAOS UNTIL THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DISCLOSED THEM EARLIER THIS YEAR.

ELLENDER WAS BACKED BY TWO SENATE VETERANS, ILTON R. YOUNG, R-M.D., AND SEN. JOHN C. STENNIS, D-MISS., WHO SIT ON THE FIVE-MEMBER CIA PANEL.

YOUNG RECALLED THAT DURING WORLD WAR II THE SECRET OF U.S. DEVELOPMENT OF THE ATOMIC BOMB WAS DISCLOSED TO FEWER THAN 10 CONGRESSMEN.

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"IF MORE THAN 10 MEMBERS IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE KNEW ABOUT IT, IT WOULD HAVE BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE," YOUNG SAID, NOTING THAT "SPYING IS A DIRTY BUSINESS."

"I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THE SPIES AND THEIR MISTRESSES AND THE 'GOLD FINGER' SORT OF THING," SEN. J.W. FULBRIGHT, D-ARK., REPLIED. EVEN IF THE SECRET OF THE A-BOMB HAD BEEN KNOWN, HE ASKED, "WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE HARM?"

"I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IT SECRET."

"THIS IS SO TRAGIC," STENNIS EXCLAIMED SEVERAL TIMES. "IT WOULD TAKE HOURS AND HOURS AND HOURS TO FULLY EXPLAIN THIS MATTER."

ALTHOUGH HE IS A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS, ARMED SERVICES AND JOINT ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEES--AND SITS IN ON APPROPRIATIONS WHEN IT DEALS WITH DEFENSE MATTERS--SYMINGTON FRANKLY ADMITTED HE DIDN'T KNOW IF PUBLISHED ESTIMATES THE GOVERNMENT SPENT \$6 BILLION IN INTELLIGENCE ARE ACCURATE OR IF HIS AMENDMENT WOULD EVEN CUT CURRENT SPENDING.

"I CAN BE TRUSTED," HE PLEADED AT ONE POINT, ADDING HE HAS SERVED THE UNITED STATES IN FOUR WARS.

BUT WHEN THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE CONSIDERED THE DEFENSE BUDGET, THE EXACT AMOUNT FOR THE CIA AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES NEVER CAME UP.

ELLENDER SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES CUT \$390 MILLION OUT OF IT--BUT HE COULDN'T SAY WHAT THAT MADE THE TOTAL.

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Comment: Thuermer and Maury have copies.

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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Wednesday - 24 November 1971

25X1A 1. (Confidential - JMM) Dorothy Fosdick, Staff Director, Subcommittee on National Security and International Operations, called to ask if there was any new information on the India/Pakistan situation. After talking with [REDACTED] I called her back and brought her up-to-date regarding the Indian admission of tanks intruding into the Jessore area.

2. (Confidential - JMM) Phillip Trimble, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, called to say that today's Alsop article about Chinese missiles had created considerable interest and he would like to come to Headquarters on Monday, 29 November, for a briefing on the subject. After conferring with Mr. Duckett, who said he would be prepared to give the briefing if the Director approved, I called back to tell Mr. Trimble that we could not give him an answer until Monday.

3. (Confidential - JMM) Attended a meeting of the Legislative Interdepartmental Group at the White House. See Memo for Record.

4. (Secret - GLC) George Murphy, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy staff, called to say Captain Edward Bauser, Executive Director of the Committee, would like us to give the JCAE staff a briefing on the recent ChiCom nuclear tests some time next week. I told Murphy I would check on this and be back in touch with him on Monday.

I alerted Murphy to the fact that next week I would provide him with a copy of the advance conclusions of the [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1A 5. (Secret - GLC) I advised Mr. [REDACTED] DDS staff, that I had talked with Mr. John Ticer, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, about the followup information General Westmoreland had offered the Committee on [REDACTED] when the General appeared before the Committee to testify on the [REDACTED] (The Committee has asked DOD to review the transcript of this hearing in order to sanitize it for possible publication.) [REDACTED] said he would notify Mr. Jim Franklin so he could advise his DOD contacts of this so he could be sure that General Westmoreland's response is deleted as part of the security review. Our classified followup paper will be given to the Committee staff for their purposes if needed.

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